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OGC 69-0425

7 March 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Ervin Bill - S. 782

I talked with Roger Jones, Assistant Director, Bureau of the Budget, about the Ervin Bill. He was well informed on the subject, and I brought him up to date on what we had been doing. He felt we should assume we had carte blanche from the Bureau to continue our activities against the Bill, and he said he would take soundings in the Bureau as to what action, if any, it would take. He personally believes it is a bad Bill.

s/

LAWRENCE R. HOUSTON General Counsel

cc: Executive Director

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Legislative Counsel

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Journal - Office of Legislative Counsel Page 4 Thursday - 6 March 1969 14. Hand carried to Mr. Edward Braswell, Staff Director of the Senate Armed Services Committee, the Director's letter to Senator Stennis transmitting a copy of the statement which the Director gave before the Pike Subcommittee on the Pueblo. Braswell said he had not devoted any time of study to the Pueblo case and added that this would be a useful summary for him. I had the impression from Braswell's remarks that he feels Senator Stennis would like to avoid hearings on the Pueblo but is under some pressure from certain of his members to schedule them. He also has outstanding the request from Senator Fulbright that any hearings on the Pueblo be conducted with the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Braswell reviewed again his conversation with Senator Ervin on S. 782. He indicated that he would like the Agency to be in touch with him before we respond to the letter which Senator Ervin is sending us. I5. During the course of a conversation with Charles Kirbow, of the Senate Armed Services Committee staff, the subject of the Ervin bill came up. We reviewed the membership of Senator Ervin's Subcommittee on Constitutional Rights and Kirbow admitted that Senator Thurmond was a member of that Subcommittee. In response to my light query Kirbow said he thought Senator Thurmond would be sympathetic to the Agency's position on the bill and suggested that we discuss it with James Lucier, of Senator Strom Thurmond's (R., S. Car.) staff, in whom the Senator has great confidence.

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